



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

May 26, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
DESCANSO GARDENS SLOPE STABILIZATION PROJECT
CAPITAL PROJECT 69202
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Award and instruct the Acting Director of Public Works to prepare and execute the construction contract for the Descanso Gardens Slope Stabilization Project, to R.C.C., in the amount of \$95,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended action will award a construction contract to R.C.C., as the lowest responsible bidder for the stabilization and erosion control of a slope within the Descanso Gardens located in La Cañada-Flintridge.

The proposed project is located within the gardens adjacent to the Boddy House. The proposed project provides for the removal of two existing oak trees, hillside grading, and installation of a subdrainage system, construction of a concrete gutter, landscaping and irrigation. Further, Garden staff will be relocating the existing Tea Plantation Garden plants to the Japanese Garden. At the completion of the slope remediation project, the Tea Plantation Garden will be reestablished with those plants which are identified within the hillside restoration guidelines by the Garden staff.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence and Fiscal Responsibility by providing slope remediation to allow visitors to use this area of the Gardens and effectively manage the resources we have to invest in public infrastructure.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board approved construction budget is \$155,000. The estimated construction cost totals \$116,750, including the construction contract cost of \$95,000 and change order contingency cost of \$21,750. The soil remediation requirements are unknown until the stabilization project begins. Therefore, it is recommended that the balance of \$38,250 remain available to address any unanticipated site conditions. The revised estimated project costs including design, plans and specifications, construction, contingency fund, landscape relocation/reinstallation and irrigation, unforeseen site conditions, County services, and project management totals are \$388,000. Sufficient appropriation is available in the Descanso Gardens Slope Stabilization Project (Capital Project No. 69202) of the 2004-05 Capital Project Adopted Budget.

The 1999-2000 Capital Project Adopted Budget included funding identified for slope stabilization projects at several parks throughout the County. Three slope stabilization projects have been completed. Descanso Gardens Slope Stabilization Project is the fourth of five slope failure projects.

Operating Budget Impact

Upon completion of the slope remediation project, Parks and Recreation anticipates no increase in one-time or ongoing operational and maintenance costs.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The recommended contract award is to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in accordance with the California Public Contract Code and your Board's directives. The enclosure includes the project description, the call for bids and bid opening date, a tabulation of bids, and financial information. The certified record of receipt of bids and the original bid proposals for this project are also enclosed.

We have developed an outreach program to encourage all qualified contractors to participate in the bidding and contracting process. Under this program, notices of upcoming bids are placed in local and minority newspapers throughout the County. These notices indicate that copies of plans and specifications are available at specified libraries and the Public Works Headquarters building. This allows interested contractors to view the plans and specifications at convenient locations. We also provide telephone numbers (including one for Spanish-speaking contractors) to obtain further information on bidding and subcontracting opportunities. To further increase contractor awareness of contracting opportunities this project was listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor and each subcontractor shall notify its employees that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contract will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the faithful performance and payment bonds filed by the contractor.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On March 29, 2005, your Board certified that this project was categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsection (i), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The contract was solicited on an open competitive basis in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code. On March 29, 2005, your Board adopted the plans and advertised for the construction bid for the Descanso Gardens Slope Stabilization Project. On May 3, 2005, four bids were received. The contract is being awarded to R.C.C. which was the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

The project specifications contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, and (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program.

Public Works has confirmed that the contractor is in compliance with the County's Child Support Compliance Program.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory performance history, bidders were required to report violations of the False Claims Act, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported by the contractor was considered before making this recommendation to approve execution of the contract.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Descanso Gardens will remain open during construction. Construction and remediation of the slope will temporarily disrupt normal usage of only effected area within the Gardens. The project is currently scheduled to be completed within a 45 working day period. It is estimated that the plant relocation work will start in May, site construction will begin in July, and the entire project is anticipated to be completed in September 2005.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the CAO (Capital Projects), Parks and Recreation, and Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Acting Director of Public Works

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

RUSS GUINEY
Director of Parks and Recreation

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Enc.

cc: County Counsel
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

May 26, 2005

ENCLOSURE A

**AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
DESCANSO GARDENS SLOPE STABILIZATION PROJECT
CAPITAL PROJECT 69202**

I. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project Activity	Scheduled Completion Date
Schematic Design	03/15/04*
Design Development	02/22/05*
Construction Documents	02/28/05*
Jurisdictional Approvals	03/01/05*
Construction Contract Award	06/06/05
Construction Start	07/06/05
Substantial Completion	08/06/05
Final Acceptance	10/01/05

* Indicates completed activity.

II. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Category	Board Approved Budget	Impact of this Action	Revised Board Approved Budget
Land Acquisition	N/A	N/A	N/A
Construction			
(a) Construction	\$ 135,000	(\$ 40,000)	\$ 95,000
(b) Change Orders	\$ 20,000	\$ 1,750	\$ 21,750
Subtotal	\$ 155,000	(\$ 38,250)	\$116,750
Landscape Relocation/Reinstallation and Irrigation	\$ 76,000	\$ 0	\$ 76,000
Plans and Specifications	\$ 42,000	\$ 0	\$ 42,000
Unforeseen Site Conditions	\$ 11,976	\$ 38,250	\$ 50,226
Consultant Services	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Miscellaneous Expenditures	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
Jurisdictional Review and Plan Check	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 5,000
County Services *	\$ 88,024	\$ 0	\$ 88,024
Total Project Budget	\$ 388,000	\$ 0	\$ 388,000

* County Services include Public Works survey, geology, soils testing, engineering and contract administration.

ENCLOSURE B

PROJECT ID NO. DESHWY2951 (CAPITAL PROJECT 69202), DESCANSO GARDENS SLOPE STABILIZATION PROJECT (City of La Cañada-Flintridge),
Supervisory District 5

TYPE OF WORK: Removal of two existing oak trees and hillside grading; installation of a subdrainage system; and construction of a concrete gutter, landscaping, and irrigation.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: March 29, 2005 (Synopsis 52)

BID OPENING DATE: May 3, 2005

BID SUMMARY:

Low +Remedial Civil Constructors, Inc., a corporation dba R.C.C. 3823 Ocean View Boulevard Montrose, California 91020 (818) 952-6752	\$ 95,000.00
2 M. W. Loyd, Inc.	\$126,595.00
3 Thomsen Landscape	\$173,075.00
4 Lee Construction Co.	\$186,184.00

+LSBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of estimate	\$136,785.00
Amount of recommended contract	\$ 95,000.00
Amount of recommended contract below estimate	\$ 41,785.00

The amount of the recommended contract is 30 percent below the estimate.

Sufficient appropriation is available in the Descanso Gardens Slope Stabilization Project (Capital Project No. 69202) of the 2004-05 Capital Project Adopted Budget.

MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

R.C.C., has no MWBE subcontractors/suppliers under this contract. This contract does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

Enclosure B
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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, Section 15269(c), and under Class 1, Subsection (i), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 45 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in July and be completed in September 2005.

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